

VZCZCXRO4931

OO RUEHBZ RUEHDU RUEHMR RUEHRN

DE RUEHSIS #1004/01 3580826

ZNY CCCCC ZZB

O 240826Z DEC 09

FM AMEMBASSY HARARE

TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5262

INFO RUCNSAD/SOUTHERN AF DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY COLLECTIVE

RUEHAR/AMEMBASSY ACCRA 3230

RUEHDS/AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA 3341

RUEHRL/AMEMBASSY BERLIN 1765

RUEHBY/AMEMBASSY CANBERRA 2599

RUEHDK/AMEMBASSY DAKAR 2968

RUEHKM/AMEMBASSY KAMPALA 0029

RUEHNR/AMEMBASSY NAIROBI 0031

RUEFAITA/CIA WASHDC

RUZEJAA/JAC MOLESWORTH RAF MOLESWORTH UK

RHMFISS/EUCOM POLAD VAIHINGEN GE

RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC

RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA 2502

RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

Thursday, 24 December 2009, 08:26

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 HARARE 001004

SIPDIS

DEPT FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY CARSON, DAS PAGE, AND AF/S

NSC FOR SENIOR AFRICA DIRECTOR MICHELLE GAVIN

EO 12958 DECL: 12/24/2019

TAGS PREL, PGOV, PHUM, ASEC, ZI

SUBJECT: TSVANGIRAI ASKS THE WEST FOR HELP ON CHANGING THE

STATUS QUO

REF: HARARE 987

Classified By: AMBASSADOR CHARLES A. RAY FOR REASONS 1.4 B,D

¶1. (SBU) This cable includes an ACTION REQUEST, please see paragraph 8.

¶2. (C) SUMMARY: Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai said that while there was tremendous progress in 2009 as compared to 2008, Zimbabwe and its c

¶3. (C) Ambassadors of the U.S., UK, French, and the Netherlands, and a representative of the EU were called to PM Tsvangirai's residence at 07

¶4. (C) ZANU-PF seems to have introduced a new tactic in its agenda - reciprocity. What this means, he said, is that Mugabe is asking, "What's

¶5. (C) Tsvangirai said the challenges for 2010 are:

- Get the reforms moving on the constitutional process. - Open media space, national healing, and anti-corruption. - Prepare for elections in 2

He said the coalition government must expedite action in all these areas because, not only are Western governments watching, but the people of

HARARE 00001004 002 OF 002

2010, using a multilateral approach involving all parties here and SADC. In early 2010, Tsvangirai and Mutambara will take the diplomatic lead

¶6. (C) Tsvangirai wants to go to Mugabe after the negotiators deliver their final report on January 15, 2010, with some idea of what the Weste

¶7. (C) On the subject of Mugabe himself, Tsvangirai said that in his recent meetings, though Mugabe seems mentally acute, he appears old and v

¶8. (C) COMMENT AND ACTION REQUEST. We are skeptical of Mugabe's motives, and worried a bit at what appears to be naivete on Tsvangirai's part.

RAY